

Regarding petition RM-10521, I do not believe that the suggestion in the petition is a good one for the amateur radio community. The 70-cm band, although not as popular as the 2 meter band, is very popular within the amateur radio community and would be considered by many to be the second-most-popular band in the service. All new hams have access to it and ultimately (if not immediately) purchase equipment to transmit in this frequency range. It is important that this band not be split up in any way to become a "shared service." During a public emergency or a public service event 70-cm is already being used and is to some the "backup" band to 2 meters in times of need. It is my feeling that the 70-cm band should remain as it is and not be altered at this time.